CLASSIFICATION ON CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY SUBJECT

Γ

Bulgaria

Political - Passports

DATE OF

INFORMATION 1952

Military

PUBLISHED

Seriveekly newspaper

DATE DIST. 17

May 1952

WHERE **PUBLISHED**

How

Sofia

NO. OF PAGES

DATE

PUBLISHED

1 Apr 1952

SUPPLEMENT TO

REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Bulgarian

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

Izvestiya.

BULGARIA ISSUES DECREE ON PERSONAL PASSPORTS

On 27 March 1952, the Presidium of the People's Assembly issued the following decree on personal passports (lichni pasport):

- 1. The People's Militia of the Ministry of the Interior is issuing personal passports. These passports are the basic documents for the identification of Bulgarian citizens. The passports are valid either indefinitely or for 5 years.
 - 2. Every citizen over 16 must have this passport.
- 3. Identity can be established with a temporary identification certificate (vremenno udostoverenie za samolichnost), which is issued once only by the People's Militia.
- 4. The circumstances under which personal passports and temporary identification certificates are issued are specified in the Regulations on Personal Passports and Registration of Addresses of Bulgarian citizens, which were approved by the Council of Ministers.
- 5. Any person who gives employment or shelter to persons without documents or with irregular identification documents, or to those whose addresses are not registered in accordance with the established regulations, or accepts identification documents for safekeeping will be fined not more than 10,000 leva.
- 6. A citizen who does not obtain an identification document, does not register his address during the period specified by the regulations, or destroys identification documents will be fined not more than 25,000 leva, provided the action is not severly punishable in accordance with another law.

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- 7. In case alterations are made /in the personal passport/ or the personal passport or temporary identification of another person is used, the guilty person will be punished in accordance with Article 242; Paragraphs 1 and 2, and Article 252 of the Criminal Law (Makazetelen zakon).
- 8. Violation of items 5 and 6 above are determined by an act established by the People's Militia on the basis of which the chiefs of the respective okoliya or rayon administrations of the Ministry of the Interior issue punitive orders imposing fines.

The punitive order may be appealed to the above chief within 7 days of receipt of the order.

This decree is effective as of the date of its publication in Izvestiya.



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